

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 AID-20 MC-02 IGA-02 SS-20 NSC-07

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EB-11 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 /124 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:DWMCCCLINTOCK/JLCLUNAN:ARA/PLC:JAWILLIAMS

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ARA/NC:FJDEVINE

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TREASURY:MR.CROSSWHITE

OSD/ISA:COL.THOMAS (SUBSTANCE)

L/PM:JMICHEL (SUBSTANCE)

----- 016020

P R 022115Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

INFO DOD WASHDC

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090606

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CO

SUBJECT: FY 74 FMS CREDIT FOR COLOMBIA

REFS: (A) SECDEF 121841Z APR 74, (B) BOGOTA 3662,
(C) COMUS MILGRP 302100Z APR 74

1. DEPARTMENT AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES FULLY APPRECIATE
PROBLEM OUTLINED IN REF B, AND THEREFORE WE ARE
PROCEEDING AS FAR AS WE CAN WITH INTERNAL COORDINATION
ON CREDIT LEVEL AND MIX PROPOSED REF A. HOWEVER
PROBLEM HERE NOT SIMPLY MATTER OF ADMINISTRATIVE
CONVENIENCE.

2. FIRST, EXTENSION UNTIL AFTER AUGUST 7 (REF C.) IS
OUT OF THE QUESTION BECAUSE FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR
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THIS PURPOSE MUST BY LAW (SECTION 603 OF FOREIGN

ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS ACT) BE OBLIGATED PRIOR JULY 1, 1974. AN OBLIGATION ON THE USG IS SPECIFICALLY DEFINED ELSEWHERE IN THE LAW (31 USC 200) TO INCLUDE A CREDIT AGREEMENT. THEREFORE, IN ABSENCE OF FORMAL CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN USG AND GOC FUNDS CANNOT BE OBLIGATED. SIMULTANEOUSLY, THERE EXISTS AN URGENT WORLD-WIDE NEED FOR FMS CREDIT AS A BALANCE FOR MAP SHORTFALL IN HIGH PRIORITY PROGRAMS ELSEWHERE.

3. IN EXISTING SITUATION MILGP COMMANDER MAY WISH TO SUGGEST TO APPROPRIATE MILITARY OFFICIALS THAT A SPECIAL EFFORT WOULD BE HIGHLY WORTHWHILE TO OBTAIN NECESSARY COMMITMENT IN ORDER TO ASSURE COLOMBIA'S CURRENT FY 74 FMS CREDIT LEVEL. IF NECESSARY, SUCH A COMMITMENT COULD BE MADE WITH PROVISIO BY COLOMBIANS THAT THEY FREE TO PROPOSE POSSIBLE CHANGES AFTER CONSULTATION WITH NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OVER NEXT FEW WEEKS.

4. SHOULD A DELAY BE UNAVOIDABLE WE WILL OF COURSE PROCESS CASE AFTER THE DELAY YOU HAVE FORECAST (REF B). HOWEVER, IN SUCH AN EVENT MINDEF OFFICIALS SHOULD BE MADE AWARE THAT FUNDS MIGHT REPEAT MIGHT BE COMMITTED ELSEWHERE IN THE INTERIM TO PARTIALLY OFFSET MAP NEEDS ELSEWHERE.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY SOONEST. RUSH

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